

ABSTRACT

5 A method and system for controlling electric power consumption using a  
computer to create a forecast and then controlling devices that use power based on the  
forecast. An automatic reader device is used to gather power consumption data from a  
point of utility service. The power consumption data is then provided to a computer. The  
computer is used to create a forecast of energy use for instantaneous demand and time-  
based usage. The computer then provides alerts based on the forecast for the manual or  
10 automatic control of devices that consume electricity. The system may be managed  
locally or remotely by a computer, PDA, cell phone or other network enabled device.